GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2407
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2007
ASSISTANCE TO SUGARCANE GROWERS
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government has urged the Union to provide assistance to farmers whose sugarcane remains uncrushed;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Union Government has also received requests from some States to purchase the excess sugar at levy price and offer it to SAARC countries as aid to assist the factories and farmers facing problems due to excess production;

(d) if so, whether the matter was taken up with other concerned Ministries/ Departments;

(e) if so, the reaction of the said Ministries/Departments thereto; and

(f) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Shri Vilasrao Deshmukh, Chief Minister, Maharashtra requested Government of India to provide a matching financial assistance of Rs. 25,000/- per hectare of standing cane crop at the end of crushing season 2006-07, similar to that of the State Government. He has been intimated that there is no provision with the Central Government to grant such financial assistance to cane growers/farmers for standing cane crops left uncrushed at the end of crushing season. However, the request from Chief Minister, Maharashtra had been considered by the Central Government while deciding the relief measures for the sugar industry and sugarcane farmers.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir.

(e) & (f): The request has already been considered by the concerned Ministries/Departments of Central Government while deciding on the relief measures for the sugar industry and sugarcane farmers.